



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 06 – 36

FALL RESULTS IN RECORDABLE INJURY

WHAT HAPPENED:

The rig was preparing to run 60" casing. The rotary was removed and a barrier was built by the rig welder and installed around the opening. The Driller and the Derrickman had discussed the need to rig up the rig's choke line hose. The hose was laying on the main deck and needed to be hoisted up to the rig floor. At first it was decided to use the rig intercom system for communication. The Derrickman had proceeded to the rig floor to lower the rig air hoist and the Driller remained on the main deck to hook up to the choke line hose. The Driller decided to use hand held radios for communication instead of the rig intercom system. The Driller retrieved two hand held radios from the office while the Derrickman remained on the rig floor. When the Driller returned with the radios he threw one of the radios up from the main deck to the Derrickman who was looking through the opening left by the removal of the rotary table. The Derrickman caught the radio and fell forward toward the barricade leaning against the top railing. One of the barricade post collapsed causing the Derrickman to fall forward and through the opening landing on the main deck 25 feet below.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- The barricade was not built to company standards as stated in the company's Offshore Personnel Safety Manual. (A fixed or portable barrier is to withstand a side load of at least 250 ft/lbs.)
- Examination of the barricade post showed that the welds used to secure the post were not a solid weld with gaps between the welds.
- No JSA was done for the operation of rigging up the rig choke line hose. The JSA would have indicated the means of communication for the rigging up of the choke line hose.
- Throwing the radio from the main deck through the opening to the rig floor.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company instructed rig personnel to:

- Discuss the incident in your next scheduled safety meeting and ensure the following:
 - Personnel shall review and comply with company standards.
 - Stress the importance of reviewing a JSA for ALL jobs
 - Discuss the hazards of throwing objects from one level to the next.
- The company issued the following directive: All rigs will use the New Style Hole Barricades (see pictures below). If your rig is not equipped with this type of barricade a Correction Request is to be generated and the barricades are to be ordered through your Rig Superintendent ASAP. (Contact your Rig Superintendent if you have any questions).

NEW STYLE BARRICADES



The Corrective Actions stated in this alert are one company's attempts to address the incident, and do not necessarily reflect the position of IADC or the IADC HSE Committee.

This material is presented for information purposes only. Managers & Supervisors should evaluate this information to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices

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